



## INDIANA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

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### **INDOT ANNOUNCES PROGRESS ON U.S. 231 IN DUBOIS COUNTY** Draft Environmental Statement Released for Public Input

Indianapolis—J. Bryan Nicol, Commissioner of the Indiana Department of Transportation (INDOT), announced today that the Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) for the U.S. Route 231 project from I-64 to State Road 56 in Dubois County has been approved by the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA).

Nicol said, "We're pleased that the Federal Highway Administration recognizes the need for a modernized U.S. 231 that provides for safer and more efficient travel for the people of Dubois County on this Statewide Mobility Corridor."

The DEIS identifies two major alternatives for further study. The first alternative (Alternative 27) is on new alignment on the east side of both Jasper and Huntingburg. The second alternative (Alternative 28) is on new alignment on the west side of both Jasper and Huntingburg. Both of these alignments include a four-lane, divided highway with access provided at selected major intersections. The goal of the project is to reduce congestion, reduce the high number of access points and bring the roadway up to modern safety standards.

Nicol added, "Beyond the benefits to the traveling public, the two alternatives demonstrate a sensitivity to the area's environment. We look forward to hearing from the public at next month's public hearing."

The DEIS is available locally for viewing at the Dubois County Auditor's Office, Jasper Mayor's Office and the Huntingburg Mayor's office. It is also available at the Jasper and Huntingburg libraries.

A public hearing to take comments on the DEIS will be held on Tuesday, April 6, 2004. The public hearing will be held in the Jasper High School Auditorium in Jasper at 6:00 p.m. Doors will open at 5:00 p.m. Public comments will be accepted until Monday, May 3, 2004.

Comments can be sent to Mr. Tony Jones, Earth Tech Inc., 6406 Castleway Court, Suite 100, Indianapolis, Indiana 46250. Comments made will be considered before a Final Environmental Impact Statement is approved. Following the DEIS public comment period, the Final Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) will be prepared identifying a single preferred alternative.